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September 17, 2003

Customer No.  
23911

**Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: New U.S. Patent Appln.  
Our Ref: 028987.52500US

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

**Bernd GAYER, Thomas BRUENING, and Martin FRANK**

entitled: **Flexible Gap Covering Between An Adjustable Steering  
Column Of A Motor Vehicle And An Instrument Panel And  
Method Of Making Same**

Enclosed are:

1. Specification, including twenty-two (22) claims (pages 1-13).
2. Five (5) sheets of formal drawings showing Figs. 1-6.
3. An Application Data Sheet (Two (2) pages).
4. Claim for Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 including a certified copy of Priority Document **102 42 966.9** filed in **Germany** on **September 17, 2002**.
5. An Information Disclosure Statement including Form PTO-1449 w/four (4) references.
6. The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic Fee					\$375/750	= \$750.00
Total Claims	<u>22</u>	-	20	= <u>2</u>	x \$9/18	= \$ 36.00
Independent Claims	<u>2</u>	-	3	= <u>0</u>	x \$42/84	= \$
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented					\$140/280	= \$
Total Filing Fee						<u>\$786.00</u>

**The filing fee is being deferred.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donald D. Evenson  
Reg. No. 26,160

DDE:alw